

Script Embedded in Electronic Documents as Invisible Encoding

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Documents that contain content information and script information that controls
user-interactivity with the document are encoded as a content section that is separate
from the script information. The script information contains references to the content
section, which typically comprises text information. By segregating the text information
10 from the script, all text applications are able to display an undisturbed copy of the text
information. In a preferred embodiment, the script is appended to the text information
segment of the document, so that the direct display of the initial portion of the document
is an immediately readable version of the text. In a second encoding method, which can
be independent or combined with the first method, the script information is encoded
using "invisible" sequences of characters. In one example embodiment, unique sequences
of invisible characters, such as space, backspace, tab, etc., are used to encode each script
element. In another example embodiment, the script elements are encoded as a sequence
of visible characters and corresponding invisible characters that have the effect of erasing
the visible characters from view, such as backspace characters. By invisibly encoding the
script elements, the direct display of the document will appear as a text document,
20 because the script elements will either be self-erasing, or attached to the text document as
"invisible" white space.